

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CARACA 08500 301229Z

44

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 300256Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5653

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T CARACAS 8500

EXDIS

FROM USDEL LOS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: EGYPT AND THE STRAIT OF TIRAN ISSUE IN THE LOS
CONFERENCE

PASS MAW, INGERSOLL, SISCO, ATHERTON AND MCINTYRE (D/LOS)

1. US REPS AMBASSADOR STEVENSON AND JOHN NORTON MOORE MET WITH ABDUL SHAFFIE HAMID OF EGYPT LOS DEL TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF EGYPTIAN REACTION, IF ANY, TO US TIRAN PAPER.
2. SHAFFIE INDICATED EGYPT WAS STILL STUDYING THIS ISSUE AND HAD NO FORMAL RESPONSE AS YET. HE INDICATED A REPLY WOULD BE MADE THROUGH US AMBASSADOR IN CAIRO AFTER STUDY COMPLETED AND THAT PERHAPS ISSUE MIGHT BE TAKEN UP BY EGYPTIAN FON. MIN. WITH US SEC. STATE IF US SEC STATE VISITED CAIRO SOON. HE ALSO INDICATED EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA WOULD PLAN TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS ON THE ISSUES BILATERALLY BEFORE INFORMING OTHER ARAB STATES OF HOW ISSUE SHOULD BE HANDLED.
3. SHAFFIE ASKED SIGNIFICANCE OF LANGUAGE IN FINAL PARAGRAPH OF PAPER CONCERNING UN CHARTER. MOORE INDICATED THE IMPORTANT
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SECRET

PAGE 02 CARACA 08500 301229Z

LANGUAGE WAS THE "REGIME" LANGUAGE AND UN CHARTER LANGUAGE

MERELY RESTATED AN OBLIGATION WHICH WOULD EXIST UNDER THE UN CHARTER IN ANY EVENT AND AS SUCH IT COULD BE DROPPED WITH NO LOSS.

4. SHAFFIE SEEMED PLEASED WITH THE US STRAITS COVERAGE PAPER EVEN THOUGH HE HAD NO OFFICIAL RESPONSE. HE INDICATED THAT HE HOPED WE HAD NOTICED THAT SINCE HE RECEIVED THE PAPER HE HAD BEEN QTE SILENT ON STRAITS UNQTE. HE ALSO INDICATED HE FELT OAU MIGHT BE ABLE TO ADOPT AN APPROACH SIMILAR TO THE UK STRAITS ARTICLE.

5. SHAFFIE ALSO INDICATED THAT MOROCOO WAS CAUSING TROUBLE ON STRAITS WITHIN THE AFRICAN GROUP AND THAT A DEMARCHE BY THE US IN THEIR CAPITAL MIGHT BE USEFUL ON THIS ISSUE.
STEVENSON

SECRET

NNN

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